

INTERVIEW WITH MISS HARTFORD.

THE KUCHENG MASSACRE.

Yesterday afternoon, says the Mercury of the 4th inst., a representative of this paper was very kindly given an interview with Miss Hartford, who it will be remembered, was one of the survivors of the Kucheng massacre and who arrived here on Monday. In response to a query Miss Hartford said that all was quiet in Kucheng, and that she had quieted the natives there, who had been harassing her for days. Miss Stewart was still very ill at Foochow. Miss Hartford said that she had not much more information to give than had already been given by this paper, but she had heard something through her native teacher (who had obtained his information from native sources) of what the savages had done, after they had completed their night, the massacre of the massacre of lives.

BOATING OF THESE DEAD.

It appeared that some 350 of them had started from a mountain twelve miles from Hwang-ssu under several leaders. They did not know where they were going to and only the leaders knew anything of what was going to be done. On the way a good many of them deserted, but only God knows what became of them. The savages had taken them, however, massacring the foreigners. After they had completed their work they went about for some time, glorying in what they had done, and if each one killed what he said he had the number of foreigners massacred would have been reached a hundred. After they had completed their work the savages were in a condition to kill and scalp. Douglas said, "We have killed all the foreigners at Hwang-ssu." They then expressed their intention of dining there, but the villagers would not allow them to, because of the terrible things they had done, and it was the same in almost every village; the villagers refusing them food and driving them out. The village of Dusigning, it was said, was a favourite resort of theirs.

NO ATTEMPTS TO ABSTAIN.

It is a noticeable fact, said Miss Hartford, that while this body of murderers was passing through all the villages, and the news must surely have spread, the district magistrate of Kucheng kept 150 soldiers guarding the empty foreign houses at that place, where there were no foreigners at all, and had sent for some time to have them sent out to inspect the savages. He might not have known of their proximity, however.

Miss Hartford being about to go out, our representative had to be content with the information he had received, and after thanking Miss Hartford for her concession took his departure.

THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION.

The following decree of the 4th inst. received by the Hsin-kuo by wire from Peking will give an insight into the progress of the Mahomedan rebellion now in full force in the provinces of Kuan, or the "Great North-West" of this empire:

"Yang Chung-Chien, Viceroy of Shan-Kan, to all the provincial and departmental governors, Brigadier-General, Tchang Yen-ho. It appears from this Viceoy's report that the Mahomedan rebellion first began in the city of Huicheng of Kuan province, daily increasing in size and seriousness until a large portion of the country was occupied. Haicheng was, however, recaptured by our troops, the siege of the provincial city of Huihuan raised, and quiet restored. When the provinces of Huihuan, Szechuan, and Szechuan, and especially the seat of another rebellion, characterized by greater ferocity and defiance of the constituted authorities. At this juncture Brigadier-General Tchang Yen-ho was instructed to go to the assistance of the local authorities. But he delayed his march, tarrying on the road for many days before getting to Foochow. Arrived there, and without asking the permission of the Brigadier-General, he started on the 1st of the rebels, Tchang Yen-ho rapidly proceeded to attack the enemy, resulting eventually in the almost complete rout of his army. By this unvarnished conduct the said Brigadier-General had disorganized the plan of the projected campaign against the rebels. As a punishment he is therefore forthwith cashiered, but must remain in the army and is given a chance to redeem, by future services, the loss of his rank and pay. Will be substituted by Year Old Brigadier-Viceroy, and Liu Chou-juan, Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Kuan, also, we must not pass over their conduct, as they have been culpably negligent in their duties. The former officer has been a great many years chief of the province and hence should have kept himself accurately informed of the condition of the Muslim rebels. As regards the latter, he is the most notorious, and deserves a definite punishment, as he has evidently made a glaring mistake which he seems scarcely able to rectify. As to the Provincial Commander-in-Chief, Liu Chen-kun, he has proved his mediocrity of talents, blindest to the dangers of the times, and ignorance of the actual crisis which hangs over the province by being involved in authorizing the gift of arms, ammunition, and warlike stores to the rebels, who only intended to take up with Liu Chen-kun, who is clearly unfit for this important post. We therefore decide that both Yang Chung-chien and Liu Chen-kun be forthwith handed over to the Board for the determination of a penalty, and we would also submit them to look more about them in the future and endeavour to redress their past errors. As soon as the armies of General Tchang Yen-ho and the rebels and others who have arrived in Kuan, let us, and every one come to use their best efforts and by united action speedily crush the present rebellion with one sweeping blow. In this way, only, will there be a chance to reduce the culpable heed and recklessness of the past. Pay sharp heed and reverential obedience to these commands!" N. C. Daily News.

MORPHINE INJECTION AT AMOY.

Mr. General Gordon, in his report on the state of Amoy for 1894, says: "It has been suggested that perhaps a reason for the decrease in the import of opium at this port is also to be found in the import of morphine, which is now being brought in greater quantities, as much as 800 cts. having been imported during one month. Of this large amount, however, it is to be presumed the sum is employed in the treatment of the opium smokers, and that part is not at all used for hypodermic injections."

Recent researches of the post doctor have shown that this habit of injecting morphine is greatly on the increase, and that there are many establishments in the city where the practice is carried on. According to the opinion of medical men, the habit is in many ways a very reprehensible one. Habitual opium-junkies, taking in morphine injections, are enabled to abstain from the opium pipe, but are by no means cured of opium smoking, as a cessation of the injection habit inevitably leads to an increased indulgence in smoking. Moreover, no care is taken to keep the syringes properly clean, and the doctor has even seen blunt syringes rubbed on a common piece of sandpaper to make them sharp again. These very sordid acts are likely to be caused by the insertion of these dirty syringes into the skin.

ATTACK ON A FOREIGN RAILWAY OFFICIAL AT SHAN-HAI-KUAN.

About 7 a.m. on the 29th August, a Hunan soldier, who had been on the English railway, and who had been sent out, but he refused to do, and was ejected by the shed hands from the yard. Other soldiers, some twenty in number, then attacked the yard, throwing stones from the low gates. At this moment Traffic Inspector Moon and Driver Inspector Ternia came in at the other end of the yard and rushed forward to prevent the gates being closed, but the soldiers, after throwing stones, then retreated. The English railway was then returned through the yard and went on the departure platform to start the train to Tientsin. Here, the soldiers, more than 200 in number, on seeing him alone, attacked Ternia and attacked him with carrying poles, knocked his sun helmet off, and gave him several blows. His face being covered with blood he could only manage to run into one of the station rooms, and had for the help

of a station policeman, who was also injured, he would have certainly been killed. Mr. Ternia saw the affair from that end, some sixty yards off, but could render no help, as there was a dense crowd on the platform, with a wall of soldiers.

Inspector Moon, in the course of his duty,

had had repeatedly to use force in ejecting from the trains all kinds of rowdy soldiers—and even officials—of the camp. It is thought not unlikely that he has been a marked man—and that the soldiers got the "cue" from someone in authority to seize a favourable opportunity to attack.

The Chinese, other than the soldiers, will be delighted if this case is severely dealt with, because they are all in constant fear of the troops, and can get no redress. Peking and Tientsin Times.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

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